



Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 151

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2005

No. 159

House of Representatives

STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN ED CASE OF HAWAII TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2005

METHAMPHETAMINE REMEDIATION RESEARCH ACT OF 2005

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 798, the Methamphetamine Remediation Research Act of 2005, which I was pleased to cosponsor originally.

I commend the dedicated work of the Science Committee in bringing this bipartisan bill to the floor today. I would also like to thank Congressmen Bart GORDON, BEN CALVERT, and Committee Chairman SHERWOOD BOEHLERT, the bill's chief sponsors, for their leadership on this issue.

Last year, 30 methamphetamine labs--including sites where only the chemical were found--were seized in Hawaii. While I fully understand that this number is small in comparison to other states in our country, the number of methamphetamine laboratories is unfortunately growing in our more isolated rural communities like those in Hawaii's Second Congressional District.

H.R. 798 would provide federal support and guidance to our states with rapidly expanding number of closed methamphetamine laboratory sites. The bill would require the Environmental Protection Agency to develop the voluntary guidelines for use by state and local officials and would establish a research program to address the environmental effects from contamination caused by methamphetamine labs and examine ways to clean up such labs and minimize adverse health effects. H.R. 798 would also direct the National Institute of Standards and Technology

to conduct research into methamphetamine detection technologies and calls for a separate study by the National Academy of Sciences to examine research on the effects that methamphetamine labs have on the residents of the buildings in which the laboratories were located.

I look forward to continuing to work with any likeminded colleagues on our Congressional Methamphetamine Caucus and otherwise to provide the federal support we need in our collective fight against the national crisis of crystal methamphetamine.

Mahalo (thank you) for this opportunity to express support for H.R. 798